

California Postsecondary Education Commission

Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program

Project Description

Project Title	Northern California Science Teacher Initiative		
Grant Amount: \$334,000	Grant Period: February 1, 2007 to January 20,2011		
Grade Level:	Subject Matter: Science		
Institute of Higher Education	<input type="checkbox"/> California State Univeristy, Humboldt		
Local Education Agency	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Additional Partners:	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Need for Project/ Population To Be Served:	The nation and California in particular, suffers from a shortage of qualified science teachers, especially those with technical knowledge in science as well as knowledge of instructional practices and classroom management. Research findings that show that teacher experience leads to better teaching and better student achievement. Thus we aim to increase the retention rate of science teachers, first in the schools with highest need and second in the teaching profession.		
Project Goals:	GOAL 1: Develop and sustain strong school site based learning communities at the department level focused on science and science instruction that can help reduce attrition. GOAL 2: Provide individualized professional development to NCSTI teachers including structured mentoring and support for professional development plans. GOAL 3: Provide regional support of high quality professional development through content institutes, academic literacy programs, and English language programs. GOAL 4: Conduct evaluation and collaborate with the state research efforts to better link program implementation with the needs of teachers. GOAL 5: Provide science academic literacy leadership to the CSP network.		
Summary of Activities:	Most of the teachers and students served by this project are from high need middle and high schools in districts with either high relevant poverty rates, program improvement status, and state API ranks 1-4. High rural poverty rates and low rates of students continuing to college are common in the region.		
Outcomes Expected:	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher participation in both professional development activities and professional learning communities will provide professional support, encouragement and community that enables effective teaching and generates long term commitments to the students and schools where they practice.		
Teachers Served	120	Students Served	12000
Project Website:			
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